

STATE SENATOR • GILDA Z. JACOBS • 14TH DISTRICT

Jacobs Press Release

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STATE SENATOR JACOBS CALLS ON CONGRESS TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(LANSING)—State Senator Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) introduced a resolution today asking the United States Congress to enact legislation to extend unemployment benefits for the over one million American workers who have exhausted their temporary assistance.

“There are over 50,000 Michigan citizens who have exhausted their 13 weeks of temporary benefits and have not yet found work,” said Jacobs. “I am asking the U.S. Congress to do the right thing and protect our hardworking citizens during these times of economic uncertainty.”

Jacobs’ resolution asks the Congress to provide an additional 26 weeks of benefits through the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation program. The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is adequately funded to cover the costs of this extension.

The recently enacted legislation to extend unemployment benefits does nothing to help the over one million citizens who have already exhausted their 13 weeks of assistance. Congressional Democrats fought to have these individuals who have been out of work the longest included in the bill, but their amendment was defeated in a straight party-line vote in the Senate.

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“These are difficult economic times,” said Jacobs. “It is important for our society to provide a safety net for working families who find themselves in temporary straits. I am calling on our Congressional leaders to enact this common sense legislation and protect American families.”

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

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